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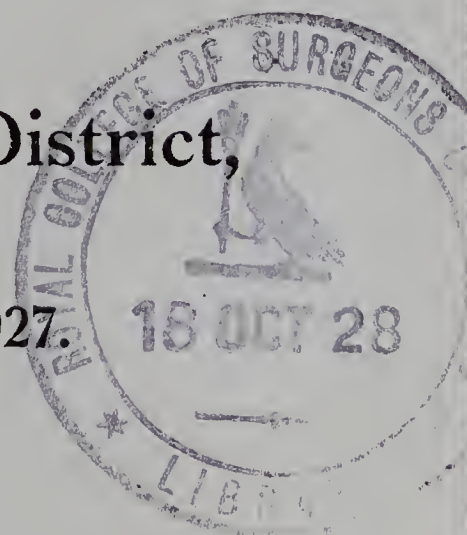
ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND
SANITARY INSPECTOR

OF THE
Stafford Rural District,

For the Year 1927.



STAFFORD:
Printed by R. W. Hourd & Son, 22, Mill Street, Stafford.





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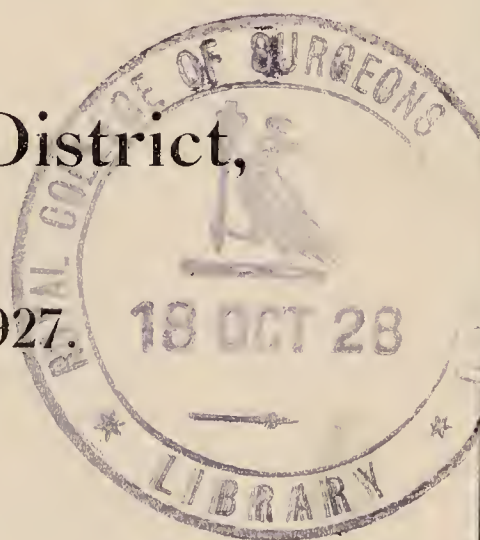
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REPORT.



*To the Chairman and Members of the Stafford
Rural District Council.*

EAST GATE,

STAFFORD,

APRIL, 1928.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report of the health of the Stafford Rural District for the Year 1927.

The Ministry of Health has issued instructions with regard to annual reports, and the present report is based on their requirements, and arranged according to their schedule.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

AREA ... 54,465 Acres •

POPULATION—Census 1921, 11,070. This included over 2,000 troops then quartered at Brocton. Therefore, for the purposes of this report the population has been estimated by the Registrar General to the middle of 1927 as ... 9,403

NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES, Estimated (1921) 1,896

RATEABLE VALUE ... £125,916

REDUCED ASSESSABLE VALUE ... £83,026

SUM REPRESENTED BY PENNY RATE ... £300



The chief occupation of the inhabitants is Agriculture, a minority being residents whose work takes them into the County Town, where the chief industries are Engineering and Shoe Manufacturing.

Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.

		Total	M.	F.	
BIRTHS	{ Legitimate ...	139	68	71	} Birth Rate 15·4 per 1,000 of the population.
	{ Illegitimate ...	6	4	2	
DEATHS ...	... ..	97	47	50	} Death Rate 10·3 per 1,000 of the population.

NUMBER OF WOMEN DYING IN, OR IN CONSEQUENCE OF, CHILDBIRTH:—

From Sepsis ... Nil. From other causes ... Nil.

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE 12

RATE PER 1,000 BIRTHS:—82·7.

Deaths from Measles (all ages) ... Nil

„ „ Whooping Cough ... 3

„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ... Nil

There is no outstanding cause of sickness or invalidity which has been specially noteworthy in the area during the year.

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

HOSPITALS, ETC.—There are none within the district, but the inhabitants avail themselves of the facilities of such institutions provided in the County Town.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.—In 1912 an arrangement was made with the Stafford Corporation, by which all cases of Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, and Enteric Fever occurring in the Rural District should be treated in the Borough Isolation Hospital. The Corporation enlarged their premises to provide for such cases, and the arrangement works satisfactorily.

SMALL POX.—There is an agreement by which the Rural District Council is able to send Small Pox cases to the South Staffordshire Joint Small Pox Hospital at Moxley.

OTHER INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION.—There is no institutional provision for unmarried mothers, or illegitimate infants in the District, but the Stafford Union provides Cottage Homes, to which the residents of the Rural District are entitled to send homeless children.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.—(a) *For Infectious Cases*: The Borough Authorities undertake to remove these cases to the Isolation Hospital, and have a properly equipped Motor Ambulance.

(b) *For Non-infectious and Accident Cases*: None.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.—There are none in the District, but for tuberculosis the residents may avail themselves of the services of the Tuberculosis Officer at the Stafford Clinic.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.—Medical Officer of Health (part time), Sanitary Inspector (whole time).

PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.—The Midwives, of whom there are about eight in the District, and who are supplied by the County Council, and under their supervision, also perform the duties of District Nurses.

CHEMICAL WORK.—Bacteriological specimens are sent direct to the County Council Laboratory by the practitioners concerned, and also by the Medical Officer of Health, as occasion arises.

Adoptive Acts in Force in the District.

- 1.—Notification of Infectious Diseases Act, 1889.
- 2.—Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890.
Adopted Jan. 11th, 1913.
- 3.—Public Health Amendment Act, 1890 (Part 3).
Adopted Aug. 3rd, 1895.
- 4.—Notification of Births Acts, 1907 and 1915.
- 5.—Public Health Act 1925 (certain Sections of Parts II., III., and IV.).
- 6.—Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924.
- 7.—Milk and Dairies Acts and Orders.

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious Diseases.

Infectious Diseases have been satisfactorily few. The diphtheria antitoxin is supplied to all practitioners free of cost, who freely avail themselves of its use, both to infected cases and contacts.

Pneumonia has been generally notified.

The practitioners in the District have made full use of the privilege accorded to them of having bacteriological specimens examined by the County Analyst. No use has been made in this District of the Schick and Dick Tests in Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever respectively.

There have been no primary vaccinations, or re-vaccinations performed by the Medical Officer of Health under the Public Health (Small-Pox Prevention) Regulations, 1917.

Every case of infectious disease occurring in Schools in the District is fully notified to me by the Head Teacher.

No cases of Anthrax or Rabies in human beings have occurred during the year.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis, during 1927.

DISEASE.	Total Cases Notified.	Total Deaths
Small Pox... ..	Nil	Nil
Scarlet Fever	8	Nil
Diphtheria	Nil	Nil
Enteric Fever	2	Nil
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	Nil
Pneumonia	7	6
Encephalitis Lethargica	Nil	Nil
Erysipelas... ..	2	Nil
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Nil	Nil
Anterior Poliomyelitis	Nil	Nil

Pulmonary Tuberculosis.
New Cases and Mortality during 1927.

Age Periods				New Cases.				Deaths.			
				Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary	
				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10	...	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
15	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
20	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
25	...	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
35	...	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
45	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
55	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
65 and upwards	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	...	...	...	9	9	Nil	Nil	1	1	Nil	Nil

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.
Water Supply.

In consequence of my report on the unsatisfactory condition of the water supply in the Parish of Colwich, in 1926, arrangements are proceeding with the Stafford Corporation for a supply of tap water from their reservoir at Shugborough.

At the moment it appears that these arrangements may develop to maturity. This would be the most satisfactory solution of the difficulty, as the Stafford water is in every respect excellent in quality.

REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

All practicable means are taken to prevent the pollution of rivers and streams from farm and domestic sewage.

DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE.

There were no sewer extensions during the year.

The Stafford Borough Authority have, by agreement, allowed the following premises to be drained into the Borough Sewer.

1st—Sixty Houses on the Burton Manor Estate, Castle-church.

2nd—Seven Houses, Wolverhampton Road, Castle-church.

There are several small sewage schemes:—

1st—At Walton, Berkswich, draining 39 Houses, including one Church School.

2nd—At Milford, draining 10 houses.

3rd—At Tixall, draining four houses.

But the great majority of houses are drained to Tanks or Cesspits, and each occupier is required to deal with his own sewage.

Thirty-nine defects were dealt with during the year.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Approximately the figures are 812 Water Closets, 1,022 Pans, and 246 privies.

SCAVENGING.

Public Ashtips are provided in the more populous parts of the District, which are periodically cleansed by contract, the refuse being deposited in depressions on the Chase or some farmers are glad to level off land.

Each householder is required to cleanse his premises, including earth closets, privies, cesspits, and ashpits, and there are very few complaints.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

Houses, Dilapidated	... 19	Repaired 13, under notice 6
Defective Drainage ..	... 39	Improved 32, „ „ 7
Slaughterhouse Inspections	131	
Knackers Yard Inspections	14	
Farms Inspected ...	...292	Cowsheds improved 100
Butchers' Shops Inspected...	35	
Bake Houses	... 19	

New Privies Built	2	Weston
Scarlet Fever Cases ...	10	
Tuberculosis Cases... ..	13	
Typhoid Case	1	
Cancer Case... ..	1	

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

There are four Factory Chimneys :—

1—Colwich Brick and Tile Works.

2—Milford Pumping Station.

3—Ingestre Estate Works.

4—The United Dairies Limited at Weston.

No trouble has been experienced from these works.

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS WHICH CAN BE CONTROLLED BY BYLAWS OR REGULATIONS.

None, with the exception of one premises where Ice Cream is manufactured at Tixall, where separate premises were required to be provided.

OTHER SANITARY CONDITIONS REQUIRING NOTICE.

None.

SCHOOLS.

The Elementary Schools of Berkswich, Rickerscote, and Hyde Lea, are supplied with tap water from the Stafford Borough Main, and Marston School from the County Council's own plant. The Great Haywood Protestant Schools from Lord Lichfield's Private Reservoir.

All other Schools depend on Well Water.

Housing.

Number of New Houses erected during the year	57
(1) With State Assistance under the Housing Acts	52
(2) By Local Authority	Nil
(3) By other bodies or persons	5

Unfit Dwelling Houses.

Inspection—(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public or Housing Acts)	61
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Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910	17
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Or the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	...	4
Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	2
Number of dwelling-houses exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	... ..	19
<i>Remedy of defects without Service of formal Notice.</i>		
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority	...	13
<i>Action under Statutory Powers</i>		
Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925.		
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	... ..	2
Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice :—		
(a) By Owners (still under notice)	... ..	2
(b) By Local Authority	... ..	Nil

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

(a) MILK SUPPLY.—There are 470 Farms registered with their Dairies and Cowsheds, and the number of milking cows would average between 9,000 and 10,000.

Particular attention has been paid to the standing and grouping of cowsheds, and many farmer owners and occupiers have constructed new cowsheds with better window lighting and ventilation. Several have put in water troughs to the cows.

The large estates are gradually re-modelling the existing sheds.

There were 292 farms visited during the year.

(b) MEAT, ETC.—During 1927 there were five Registered and four Licensed Slaughterhouses, and there were 131 inspections, made as far as possible at times of slaughtering, and usually the meat was of good quality.

The six small Butchers' Shops are regularly inspected and are well kept.

The several small Grocers' Shops are also visited, and with the exception of one in Castle Church, are well and cleanly kept.

Factories, Workshops, and Workplaces.

1.—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS OR
INSPECTORS OF NUISANCES.

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections (2)	Written Notices (3)	Occupiers prosecuted (4)
Factories (Including Factory Laundries)	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Workshops (Incl. Workshop Laundries)	30	1	Nil.
Workplaces (Other than Outworkers' premises)	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Total	30	1	Nil.

2.—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars (1)	Number of Defects.	
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts* :—</i>		
Want of cleanliness	5	5
Other nuisances, Drainage	1	1
Total	6	6

*Including those specified in sections 2, 3, 7 and 8 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

HERBERT MARSON,

M.D., B.S.Durh., L.R.C.P.Lond., F.R.C.S.Eng.,

Medical Officer of Health.





